Observations and Impressions of an Omaha Traveler.

PICTURESQUE SCENES IN CAPITAL CITY

Bustness and Social Customs Novel and Surprising-Annoyances of the Tip-Peculiarities of Native Boose.

Juce in Mexico, away from the protection of the stars and stripes, I realized that my conduct must be exemplary, as from two to a dozen Mexican policemen with sabers and revolvers hanging from their belt, were patroling every station. The road from Laredo to Mexico City took is through a barren desert with little to attract one, except the small villages of cactl, changing with the altitude. These adobe houses are about sixteen by twenty feet, one-story, the walls are made of sundried clay brick, and the roof is made of native grasses. They have no floors or furniture. They build their fire in the center of this house, and the entire family, ogether with the hogs, chickens, dogs and cats, sleep and live in the them.

At one of the stations on the National rallroad I was very much impressed by the sight of a number of native women, dressed n the ordinary costume of the native, who came with water jars to get the waste water from the engine, and I noticed a number of them who engaged in a very vigorous struggle to be served first, and when they would secure their jars full of water they would carry them on their head. I was informed they often come a distance of from a half to several miles, water being very scarce in this high alti-

Scenes in Mexico City.

Upon reaching Mexico City a different view is presented. Passing through a beautiful park in front of the railroad station, which opens out upon the principal avenue leading from the Alameto to the president's castle, Chapuitepec, you take a cab and are driven past the fashionable residences, and by the Alameda, which is the city park, to the hotel. On Sunday morning we went to the Alameda, where we saw and heard the same Mexican band which favored Omaha music lovers with such charming music during our exposi-The park is a delightful spot, filled with banana palms and ornamental trees, as well as shrubbery and flowers.

In the afternoon we visited Chapultepeo, about four miles from the center of the city. At one part of it is a zoological garden, which has a specimen of nearly every wild animal and bird of the republic, and in the center of the park is an elevation about 100 feet high, covering perhaps five acres of ground. In this park is the historic and picturesque hill of Chapul-tepec, surrounded by its beautiful forest, gardens, springs, lakes and ancient residence of the Astec kings. The front of the castle overlooking the city is occupied by the president, and the rear is occupied by the Mexican Military academy, which was founded in 1824. In 1847, when the American army invaded the country and stormed Chapultepec, it was heroically defended by the cadets, and at the foot of Chapuitepec hill stands a monument erected

Extaccinuati, entirely covered with snow.

The bull fighting season was on and of course offers a great attraction. However, the educated people of Mexico see the brutalizing and demoralizing effect it has upon the people, and it will be a great step forward in its civilisation when that port is abolished.

The English-speaking population of the about three times that of Omaha, threefourths of which comprises the lowest

Life on the Market Place.

The Mexican market is a large one-story building, about 250 feet square, built of steel and glass with stone floor. It has seven aisles, in which the people rent space, and here you can buy almost everything in the way of eatables. Everything s usually apportioned out in two centavos. The women arrange their vegetables or goods in little piles on a blanket spread the floor or tables. These little piles of three or four heads of lettuce, little piles of half a logen small white onlone; if the potatoes are about the size of an egg the pile will consist of about three. There will be about two tablespoons of beans, and a small cabbage cut in two, and a small pile of red peppers. The women squar on the ground by the side of their goods, whether and the shoppers go to the marke: with small baskets made out of native reed. bought one at Cordoba filled with eighteen large oranges for 25 centavos. Everything there to separate the different articles. Outside of the large stores no wrapping paper is used. People go to the meat marbutcher ties a string around it, and they carry it through the street by the string. In the markets they also have very fine game, venison and large rabbits, weighing

KNOW IT WELL. Familiar Features Well Known to Hundreds of Omaha Citizens.

A familiar burden in every home, The burden of a "bad back." A lame, a weak or an aching back, Tells of kidney ills.

Doan's Kidney Pills will cure you. Here is Omaha testimony to prove it. Mr. W. V. Doolittle, No. 2236 South 10th street, engineer on the Union Pacific R. R., says: "For two years and a-haif I had backache. At first I thought very little of it, but during the winter of 1808 it gradually grew worse, and I saw that something had to be done. Getting up and down from the engine gave me no small amount of trouble. I could scarcely endure the pain and thought sometimes my back would break. Procuring Doan's Kidney Pills at Kuhn & Co's drug store, I took them and they completely cured

Foster-Milburn Co., Buffalo, N. Y., sole agents for the U.S.

FEATURES OF LIFE IN MEXICO perhaps afteen pounds, very much larger | saw a rurale's (or policeman) lantern sitthey were taken home, in order that they

had this barbarous practice stopped. The morning I happened to be in the with his book of 2-cent stamps, and every woman, he matter if she sold only 10 cents worth of goods, had to purchase one of these stamps.

Custom of Tipping.

Another noticable holdup is the custom of tipping, which is very general throughout Mexico, especially in the capital. has grown into such a practice that if one neglects to tip he finds himself very much neglected. The hackman who took us to our hotel, after receiving his 80 cents, followed us around for nearly twenadobe houses and different varieties of black, after receiving his 10 cents, expects ty minutes asking for his tip. The bootan additional 5 cents, and the cargador expects the same. And right here let me say a word about

the cargador. He takes the place of the horse in our country. He is a comparatively short man, very stout and with broad shoulders. All of them carry a brass chain with a numbered check attached to it, so that whenever you have any controversy with him, or desire to report him to the police you do so by his number. principal test for obtaining his license is that he must be able to carry a minimum gage that you can scarcely lift, and you send for a cargador; he swings it over his shoulders and walks away as easily as though it weighed but a few pounds. At Vera Cruz cargadors assisted in carrying our grips from the railroad station to the street car, and from the street car to the hotel. I gave them 50 cents apiece, after paying their car fare. They were not satisfied with that and impudently asked for a dollar. After parieying over it I told them I would get a policeman, and they said all right, because they knew there were none there, and they waited around the hotel and kept up their abusive talk. We then explained the matter to the hotel man, and he told them that if we paid their car fare and gave them 50 cents aplece they were more than paid. When they found they could not get anything more they commenced to beg, and said, "Senor Americaner, please give us 25 cents more, because we had to wait so long for the street car, and I told them that if they had acted decent I would have given them a quarter, but as it was they must vamous, which means to get out. In going from the hotel to the depot in Mexico City the driver took us out of our way several blocks so he might go over half the hour. and thereby charge an additional 25 cents. Until lately nearly everything was carried

Until lately nearly everything was carried on the backs of these cargadors. I saw several of them handling household goods by the use of hand trucks; however, one may now find plenty of carts and heavy transfer wagons.

Mexican Sunsets.

About an hour after sunset I observed a very bright sky in the west. This strange phenomenon cannot be seen north of the Tropic of Cancer. About half an hour after sunset it appears as a glow of silver light and extends into the sky about 46 degrees. In the winter it is seen after sunset and about the time of the summer solstice it

The Iron Molders' Union of North America paid out the sum of \$278,806.87 in benefits during the year 1904, outside of strike pay. It was divided as follows: Death benefits and extends into the sky about 46 degrees. In the winter it is seen after sunset and about the time of the summer solstice it

ways had the mistaken idea on account of its name that it did not blossom until it was 100 years old. The plants blossom in their native country when about 10 years old. They blossom but once and then die. When they are ready to blossom they send up an immense spike twelve to fifteen feet ome. Once it has blossomed it loses its

high and four to six inches in diameter city is about 7,000. The population is tapering toward the top; then the flowers come out which look like a giant lilac bloscommercial value. The plants are raised from little suckers taken from the parent plant when six to eight inches high and planted quite close together; when they are about 2 years old they are again transplanted into rows about ten feet apart each way. They then grow until they are 4 years old, when they are ready to be tapped, and the natives extract a juice which in Central America and Mexico is converted into a fermented drink called pulque. The sap, which abounds in sugar and mucilage when the plant is about to flower, is at that time drawn into a cavity formed by cutting into the heart of the plant, and the sap will remain in this cupshaped heart. The yield may be as much

as two gallons a day for several months. Mexican Boose.

The juice is fermented in reservoirs of rawhide and pig skins and early in the they be flowers, fruit, vegetables or meat, process, say within two or three days, it s pleasant, resembling spruce beer, but at the end acquires the putrid odor of the aniwhich are well made and very cheap I mat matter contained in the hides. It is only for quick consumption and after five or six days is thrown away. It is sold in women buy they place in this basket, the city for 1 cent a glass, or 3 cents a with perhaps a cabbage leaf here and quart, and the poor people practically live on it and tortillas.

These saloons are dirty, gaudy holes in the

wall and have a sour smell that you can ket for a pound or two of meat and the detect a block away, especially in warm weather. As they are pretty strong now, wonder what it will be in July and August. Behind the bar are a couple of sloppy looking Mexicans, who serve this drink out of open barrels. When they bring it in from the country in these pigskins, they empty it into the barrels in the saloons. The Mexican woman of the lower class is not allowed in a cantina, a modern saloon, but is allowed in pulquera, a pulque joint. You will see the Mexicans with their wives and children all squatting on the floor and eating tortillas and circular the pulque and these disks are comprises six stations, with four-drinking this pulque and these disks. skins, they empty it into the barrels in the drinking this pulque, and they drink so much of it that they get senselessly full, when the police have to take them off.

And that reminds me of the balam, or the Mexican jail. I could not get inside. but I looked through the bars. The first thing "hey put a man in is what is called "in comunicado." for three days. Nobody can see him. He cannot speak to anybody, no matter how innocent or guilty he may be; even if he is arrested on suspicion he cannot speak to a soul for three days met an Englishman who got into a fight n Mexico City, and he was arrested and sent to balam, and he said he had no bed or covering of any kind. He had to sleep on the hard stone floor for three days. after which he was allowed, at his own ex pense, to send out for a mattress and blankets and also to communicate with ounsel or friends. He said the place was absolutely filthy and lousy and the food is absolutely unfit for a civilized man to cat. God pity any American who gets into a Mexican fall, for he will have great diffi-

culty in getting out alive. Curlous Laws.

are all sold alive. In early times they flie rurale was sitting in a decreasy some picked the chickens slive at the market little distance away. In order to save him and the purchaser did not kill them until the trouble of getting up he lifted the lantern up in his hand so he could see the might save the blood and make a fine address on the envelope, and the policeman sauce, but some years ago the American immediately put him under arrest—that Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to being an offense under the law, of which Animals, which has a branch in Mr. ico, Mr. Randolph was ignorant. Fortunately for him he had his wife with him and the hotel keeper, who was a native Mexican, market the revenue official came around and all taken to jail. They wanted to detain Mr. Randolph, but the hotel man explained that as he did not know the laws it would be a crime to detain him, but that he would be responsible for his appearance in the morning. They all went back to the hotel and sought the advice of a Mexican lawyer. He went back to the prison with them and told the comissara what a stn it was to arrest this man, and further stated that if they arrested him and put him in jail it would cost the policemen a certain sum of money, together with his position. but that if they insisted on taking him that he (the lawyer) would remain in his stead. Mr. Randolph was not detained, and the next morning the jefe politico, who in Mextoo is the judge, sheriff, magistrate-the whole thing-asked the rurale why he arrested Mr. Randolph and he replied: had to discharge my duty." The jefe politico then said: "You would have discharged your duty had you arrested a native, but you know this was an American who did not understand our laws, and in consequence you will lose your position. Mr. Randolph said that had he been a stranger in the city he might not have fared so well. The government of Mexico has a reward of \$25 for every policeman's of 250 pounds on his back. You have bag- lantern that can be taken from a police-WILLIAM S. HELLER.

LABOR AND INDUSTRY.

There are more than 50,000 electricians in the United States.

A school for the study of shorthand is conducted by the Canadian Pacific railroad at Montreal, Canada, for the benefit of em-

There are 44,000 hotels in the United States, representing an invested capital of over \$5,000,000,000. These establishments employ 3,500,000 persons.

According to the statements made by those who have investigated the subject, among whom are charity organization workers and philanthropists, there are 100,-000 idle men in New York City at present. Michigan state labor bureau reports that labor was scarce last year and many fac-tories were forced to run at less than full capacity. Higher wages were paid, the ad-vance amounting to about 5 cents per day

Do strikes pay? The recent rough estimate that the total cost to strikers, employers and the public during the twenty years ending with 1900 was \$1,000,000,000 may be fairly correct. Every strike involves waste, and the public, as a rule, suffers more than either employer or employe.

The pig iron furnaces of the United States were producing at the rate of 19,800,000 tons per annum during the month of Decamber. The output for the year 1804 was not up to the records of 1802 and 1908, but the operations for December indicate that 1805 may surpass all previous years in production.

In the winter it is seen after sunset and about the time of the summer solstice it appears before surrise. Twenty years ago when I studied astronomy its origin was absolutely unknown. It is probably due to the luminous rings or bands about the earth befry of the cathedral, and from there had a fine view of the city, its lakes as well as the mountain ranges surrounding it, and to the southeast, in all their grandeur, we saw the giant peaks of Popocatepeti and Ixtaccihuati, entirely covered with snow.

In the winter it is seen after sunset and about the summer solstice it appears before surrise. Twenty years ago when I studied astronomy its origin was absolutely unknown. It is probably due to the luminous rings or bands about the earth fields of Friance and more than seventy times the aggregate extent of all the coal fields of Britain. Of the quality of the deposits much has yet to be learned, but the distinguished German geologist, Baron von Richtofen, reported many years ago with a seventy times the aggregate extent of all the coal fields of Britain. Of the quality of the deposits much has yet to be learned, but the distinguished German geologist, Baron von Richtofen, reported many years ago with a seventy times the aggregate extent of all the coal fields of Britain. Of the quality of the deposits much has yet to be learned, but the magney plant, commonly known as the century plant in the United States. I al-

RELIGIOUS NOTES.

The Roman Catholics are prosecuting vig-orously a mission among the Kentucky mountain people.

The Woman's Foreign Mission Board of the Interior are planning to place \$100,000 in the treasury by October next.

One of the leading evangelists in the great Welsh revival is a Miss Rees, who is quite young, but is very successful as a singing evangelist.

The receipts of the American board for December, 1904, amounted to \$59,906.16, of which \$31,023.81 came from donations and from legacies.

The fiftieth year of the regular weekly ublication of the sermons of the late Rev. Tharles H. Spurgeon has just been comleted. The jubilee sermon is numbered Rev. K. W. Wotirott, the American

missionary, who for twelve years has been aboring in Central Africa, is visiting this country. He works among the people of

the Satnamens sect.

Most Rev. Archbishop Williams, whose eyes have been successfully operated upon for cataract, is doing well. He is still at Carney hospital, but it is expected he will recover the use of his eyes.

A Christian woman in Tokio is having 30,000 "comfort bags" made for the soldiers in the field, into each one of which she puts one of the gospels and a tract. The soldiers welcome these gifts most heartily. Over 2 per cent of the membership of the

soldiers welcome these gifts most heartily.

Over 2 per cent of the membership of the Presbyterian church in Japan has gone to war. This is more than twice the proportion of enlistments from the general population. Sixty-one Presbyterians are officers in the army or navy.

President Rossevelt, under the personal recommendation of Archbishop Farley, has appointed Rev. Joseph M. McGinty of New York to be a naval chaplain. The stalwart young priest is six feet tall, light complexioned and an athlete.

The American Bible society has recently received a number of interesting communications from its agent in Japan, the Rev. Mr. Loomis, who says: "We have donated more than 32,000 testaments and gospels among the 45,000 wounded Japanese soldiers."

The First Church of Christ (Christian

The First Church of Christ (Christian Science) in Boston called the Mother church, reported. November 1, 1904, a membership of 31,425, a gain of 2,000 for the past year. There are now 610 Christian Science churches, besides the Mother church, in the United States.

which is to be formed into an annual conference, comprises six stations, with four-teen American missionaries and thirty-five native catechists and helpers, six organized churches. The mission property is valued at £56,150, and the native contributions last year amounted to \$446.

Rev. Dr. Clifford of London. tions last year amounted to \$445.

Rev. Dr. Clifford of London, as president of the Liberation society, has lasted a strong appeal to the Free churches on the subject of disestablishment. Dr. Clifford says: "The evils of the state establishment of religion are making themselves more and more manifest to the minds of the electorate." He believes that "disestablishment must speedily become a question of practical politics."

rical politics."

Very Rev. George M. Searle, in addressing the New York Congregational club recently, "gently rebuked Protestants in general for being unacquainted with the literature circulated by the Paulists, yet repudiating it wholly." Father Searle, who is the head of the order of Paulist Fathers, was listened to with great delight by the club, which had an unusually large attendance to listen to him and Dr. Gladden, its invited guests.

Rev. F. E. Higgins, the logging camp Presbyterian missionary of northern Minnesota, travels all over the timber region of that state with a dog sled. Mr. Higgins weighs over 200 pounds, but his dogs have hauled him forty miles in six and a hr. If hours. Sometimes he makes a journey of 500 miles in the dead of winter through the forests and sleeps between his dogs, all three covered by a blanket.

Pope Plus X does not believe in nepotism.

took them and they completely cured their laws are, I will relate an experience of a friend of mine, who is manager for a large plantation company in Mexico, with a policeman one night in the city of Cordoba. He was looking for a laborer one evening in the residence part of the C.S.

Remember the name, Doan's, and take of other.

To show you how nonsensical some of their laws are, I will relate an experience of a friend of mine, who is manager for a large plantation company in Mexico, with a policeman one night in the city of Cordoba. He was looking for a laborer one evening in the residence part of the city hard of their own work. They cannot call on the pape without for the day work. They cannot call on the pape without for the city. They cannot call on the pape without for the city of care.

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by A. CONAN DOYLE



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